

A NEW SPECIES OF *LABIDOCORIS* MAYR (HETEROPTERA: REDUVIIDAE: ECTRICHODIINAE) FROM SOUTH INDIA¹

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(With sixteen text-figures)

INTRODUCTION

Labidocoris Mayr is a little known genus in the subfamily Ectrichodiinae of the family Reduviidae. Distant (1902) has included only one species, namely *Labidocoris elegans* Mayr in his *Fauna of British India* Capriles (1990) also listed only one species of *Labidocoris*, namely *Labidocoris elegans* Mayr (*Cimbus elegans* Walker) from Indian faunal limits and another two species viz. , *L. insignis* Distant from Japan and *L. pectoralis* (Stål) from China. The present study adds one more species to this small genus. The new species is assigned to the subfamily Ectrichodiinae by the presence of broad scutellum with two apical spinous angulations and to the genus *Labidocoris*, because of the following taxonomic characters, such as seven jointed antennae, anterior femora strongly tuberculate near apex, profoundly sulcate anterior lobe of pronotum with two minute discal tubercles.

Labidocoris tuberculatus sp. nov. (Figs. 1 - 16)

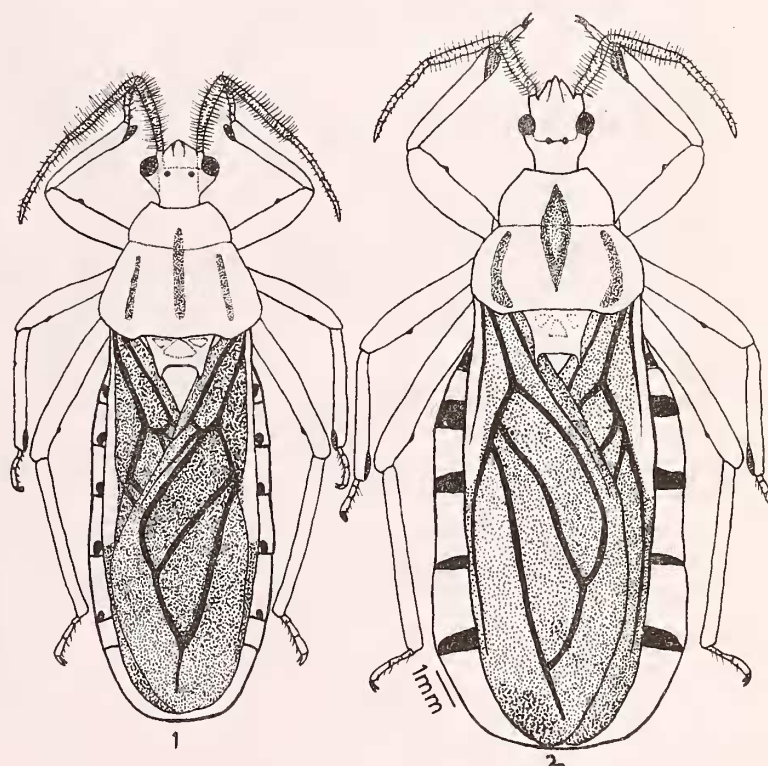
Total length 14.5 mm, width across the eyes 1.75 mm; across prothorax 3 mm.

Coral red, antenna except terminal segments, eyes, lateral and ventral pterothorax, clavus, membrane connexival spots, lateral fasciae of abdominal segments and genital segment black.

Head length 2.5 mm; width 1.75 mm (Figs. 3 and 4) transverse immediately behind compound eyes; postocular portion slightly raised compound

eyes slightly protruded antero-laterally, two black transparent ocelli located at the slightly raised portion of the postocular area, rostrum, (Fig. 4) 2.2 mm long slightly curved, 2nd rostral segment the longest and robust; antennae (Fig. 5) (7.65 mm long) 7 segmented, outwardly deflexed, pedicel the longest; scape and pedicel covered with short stout bristles; an intercalary segment in between pedicel and 1st flagellar segment; antenniferous tubercles prominent, neck distinct.

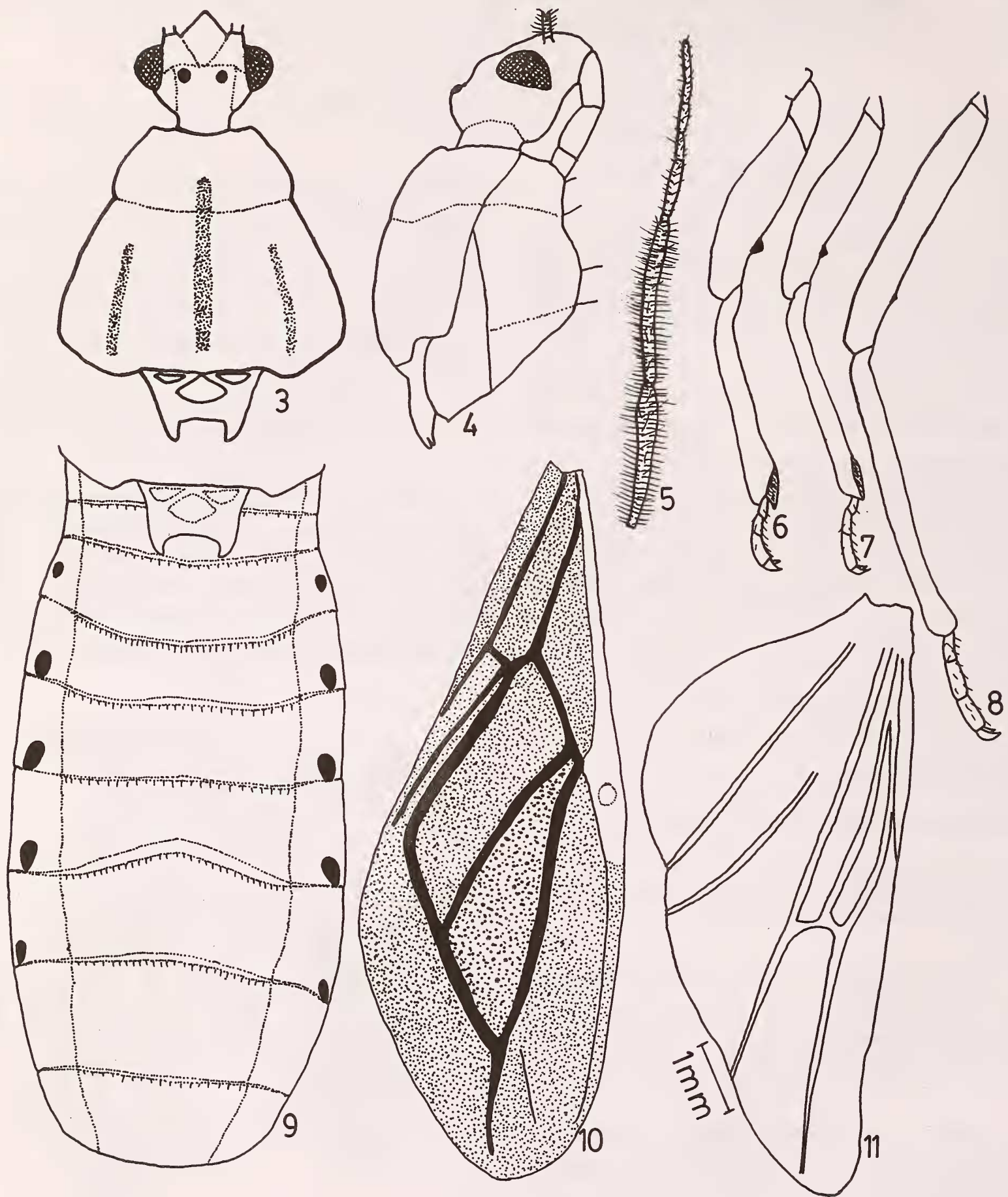
Pronotum (Fig. 3) (3 mm long; 4 mm broad) shining, polished and transversely divided before the middle and centrally strongly grooved, posterior lobe of pronotum laterally grooved on each side; antero-lateral pronotal angles obtuse and posterolateral pronotal angles rounded, disc of



Figs. 1-2. *Labidocoris tuberculatus* sp. nov.
1. Male and 2. Female : dorsal view.

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Figs. 3-11. *Labidocoris tubereculatus* (Male) : 3. head and pronotum; 4. head and pronotum lateral view; 5. antenna; 6-8. fore, mid and hind legs; 9. abdomen dorsal aspect; 10. hemelytra; 11. hind wing.

scutellum concave and its apex biangulate and wide apart (Fig.3); apices of fore femora (Fig.6) strongly and intermediate and hind femora moderately tuberculate beneath with a tubercle; hind legs (Fig.8) the longest, middle legs (Fig.7) the shortest; fore and mid tibiae bear apical spongy fossula; hemelytra (Fig. 10) (8.5 mm long; 3.5 mm broad) not reaching the abdominal apex.

Abdomen (Fig. 9) (9.0 mm long ; 4. 0 mm broad) elongately oval; 5 pairs of connexival spots prominent.

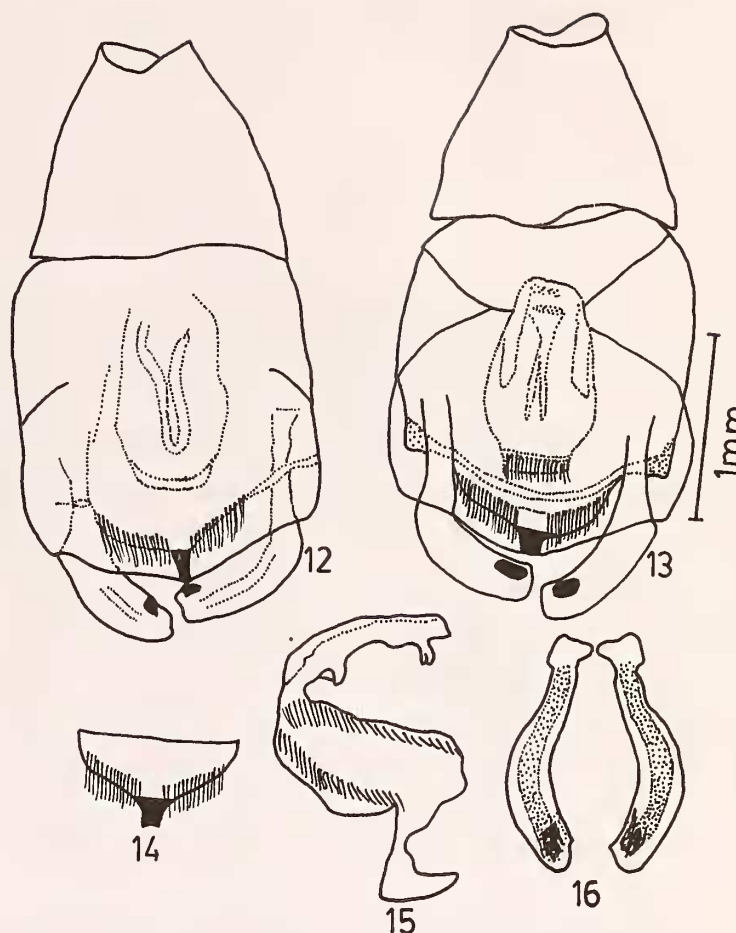
Genitalia as in figures 12-16. Pygophore more or less rectangular, its apex rounded. Phallus more or less 'S' shaped and the parameres a little elongated and sickle shaped. Female (Fig. 2) larger than male.

L. tuberculatus sp. nov. is allied to *L. elegans*. But *L. tuberculatus* sp. nov. can be distinguished from *L. elegans* by its large size (14.5 mm long and 4. 0 mm broad) and the strongly tuberculate apices of fore femora.

Holotype: Male, collected from Courtallam tropical rain forest, Nellai Kattabomman District, Tamil Nadu, India altitude 280 m (8° 56' N and 77° 16'30 E) collected by S. John Vennison on 10.vii.1990. The holotype is deposited in the Insect collection (No.6), Entomology Research Unit, St. Xavier's (Autonomous) College, Palayankottai, India.

Allotype: Female, collected from the same locality.

Etymology: The species is named *Labidocoris*



Figs. 12-16. *Labidocoris tuberculatus* Male genitalia : 12. pygophore dorsal view; 13. pygophore ventral view; 14. strut; 15. phallus and 16. parameres.

tuberculatus due to the presence of tubercles in the fore femorae.

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